Commonwealth of Virginia STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION

MEMORANDUM

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Date: 8/30/2023

To: Document Control

From: Michelle Brown-White, Division of Public Utility Regulation

RE: Virginia Electric and Power Company - For a financing order authorizing the issuance of deferred fuel cost bonds

Attached are four (4) comments submitted to the Commission for consideration. Please enter in the case jacket for Case No. **PUR-2023-00112.**

Thank you.

David Marsden, Senate of Virginia

Barry DuVal, Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Scott Wyatt, Member, Virginia House of Delegates

Kathy Byron, Virginia House of Delegates

NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

From:

do-not-reply@scc.virginia.gov

Sent:

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 9:33 AM

To:

PUR_Comments

Cc: Subject: eryan@mcquirewoods.com Comment for PUR-2023-00112

Attachments:

Fuel Securitization Letter_Marsden.pdf

Case

Number

PUR-2023-00112

First Name

Dave

Last Name

Marsden

Organization Senate of Virginia

Address Line 9322 Jackson St

Address Line

1 2

City

Burke

State

VA

Zip Code

22015

Phone Number

703-964-6821

Email

Address

1300 E. Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 RE: Case No. PUR-2023-00112 Dear Judge Hudson: I am writing in regard to the applications by Dominion Energy Virginia to securitize certain deferred fuel costs and, relatedly, update the fuel factor component of its customers' electric bills. As the State Corporation Commission adjudicates these cases, I wish to register my support for mitigating the immediate bill impact associated with fuel costs and for stabilizing electric rates to the greatest extent possible. To that end, I hope you will consider the merits of the fuel securitization approach. This option was born out of the General Assembly's desire to bolster the rate relief potential of important utility-focused regulatory reforms enacted during the 2023 Regular Session. By approving the relevant legislation, my fellow lawmakers and I sought to provide a tool the Commission may find beneficial to utility customers including those I represent in Fairfax County—who might otherwise face a steep short-term rate increase. The near-universal support that legislation attracted reflects a bipartisan focus on controlling electricity costs in an inflationary environment. I would urge the Commission to keep the goal of electric rate stability, as well as successful applications of securitization in other states, top of mind when reaching a decision in this proceeding. Thank you for your continued service on the Commission and your consideration of my views on this matter. Sincerely, David W. Marsden Senate of Virginia, 37th District

August 28, 2023 The Honorable Jehmal T. Hudson Virginia State Corporation Commission Tyler Building

Comments

August 28, 2023

The Honorable Jehmal T. Hudson Virginia State Corporation Commission Tyler Building 1300 E. Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Case No. PUR-2023-00112

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Sincerely,

David W. Marsden

Senate of Virginia, 37th District

Grubmanlar

From:

do-not-reply@scc.virginia.gov

Sent:

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:06 PM

To:

PUR_Comments

Cc: Subject: eryan@mcquirewoods.com Comment for PUR-2023-00112

Attachments:

8.28.23 VA Chamber Fuel Securitization Letter.pdf

Case

PUR-2023-00112

Number

First Name

Barry DuVal

Last Name

Organization Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Address Line 919 East Main Street

Address Line

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Zip Code

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VA

804-644-1607

Phone Number

Email

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k.martin@vachamber.com

Mr. Bernard Logan, Clerk Virginia State Corporation Commission 1300 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 Re: Case No. PUR-2023-00112 Dear Mr. Logan: As the State Corporation Commission (Commission) draws closer to its decision on Dominion Energy's application related to securitization of deferred fuel costs, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce wants to express its support to protecting all ratepayers business and residential customers alike—from a spike in electric rates associated with fuel costs. The 2023 General Assembly addressed its goal of providing rate relief and stability to electric customers by enacting legislation which, among other things, directly enabled Dominion Energy's securitization

Comments

proposal. Securitization can be a customer-beneficial approach to the extent it avoids significant fuel rate adjustment which could result from business-as-usual cost recovery in favor of minimizing present-day bill impacts and diffusing the impact over time. We acknowledge that securitization is a new tool for the Commission, one which demands careful consideration. However, it is important to recognize that it is a tool which other states have successfully deployed when circumstances warrant, and one that the Virginia legislature specifically envisioned as a mitigant of near-term electric rate increases. Recent economic conditions have proven difficult to navigate, both for the business community and Virginia households. In reaching a ruling in this proceeding, the Virginia Chamber respectfully requests that the Commission supports rate stability for all Dominion Energy customers. Thank you for the consideration of my comments. Sincerely, Barry E. DuVal President and CEO



THE VOICE of BUSINESS

August 28, 2023

Mr. Bernard Logan, Clerk Virginia State Corporation Commission 1300 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Case No. PUR-2023-00112

Dear Mr. Logan:

As the State Corporation Commission (Commission) draws closer to its decision on Dominion Energy's application related to securitization of deferred fuel costs, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce wants to express its support to protecting all ratepayers—business and residential customers alike—from a spike in electric rates associated with fuel costs.

The 2023 General Assembly addressed its goal of providing rate relief and stability to electric customers by enacting legislation which, among other things, directly enabled Dominion Energy's securitization proposal. Securitization can be a customer-beneficial approach to the extent it avoids significant fuel rate adjustment which could result from business-as-usual cost recovery in favor of minimizing present-day bill impacts and diffusing the impact over time.

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Recent economic conditions have proven difficult to navigate, both for the business community and Virginia households. In reaching a ruling in this proceeding, the Virginia Chamber respectfully requests that the Commission supports rate stability for all Dominion Energy customers.

Thank you for the consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Barry E. DuVal President and CEO

Bay E. Oulas

From:

do-not-reply@scc.virginia.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, August 30, 2023 9:55 AM

To:

PUR_Comments

Cc: Subject: eryan@mcguirewoods.com Comment for PUR-2023-00112

Attachments:

Del Wyatt Fuel Securitization Letter.pdf

Case Number PUR-2023-00112

First Name

Scott

Last Name

Wyatt

Organization Member, Virginia House of Delegates

Address Line 1 PO Box 365

Address Line 2

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Mechanicsville

State

VA

Zip Code

23111

Phone Number 8046981097

Email Address delswyatt@house.virginia.gov

Comments

Please see attached letter.



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES RICHMOND

SCOTT A. WYATT
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MECHANICSVILLE, VIRGINIA 23111

NINETY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS COUNTIES, CITIES AND TOWNS

August 28, 2023

The Honorable Jehmal T. Hudson, Chairman State Corporation Commission 1300 E. Main Street—Tyler Building Richmond, Virginia 23219

RE: Case No. PUR-2023-00112

Dear Judge Hudson:

Due to the effects of inflation on fuel costs, I encourage the SCC to allow Dominion Energy to finance certain deferred fuel costs through fuel cost bonds (Fuel Securitization). I believe allowing Dominion to defer fuel costs would lessen the negative impacts on ratepayers across the Commonwealth.

One of the most compelling aspects of the electric rate reform law which became effective in July, in addition to broad-based regulatory reforms, was the substantial and immediate rate relief it entailed for Dominion Energy customers. An option to securitize deferred fuel costs was included as a possible alternative to the usual cost recovery framework which, given fuel price increases in the recent past, could significantly raise monthly bills. It was designed to help protect electric customers from a near-term price spike.

As the Commission proceeds with its review of Dominion Energy's fuel securitization proposal, I trust you will give due consideration to the opportunity to implement this new tool. I am sensitive to the fact that securitization would be a novel approach for Virginia but am also reassured by its successful use elsewhere.

In closing, I hope the Commission will bear in mind the financial strain Virginia households have been experiencing and prioritize electric rate stability when rendering a decision in this case. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my perspective.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Wyatt

Sur Allipson

From:

do-not-reply@scc.virginia.gov

Sent:

Wednesday, August 30, 2023 9:55 AM

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PUR_Comments

Cc:

eryan@mcquirewoods.com

Subject:

Comment for PUR-2023-00112

Attachments:

SCC ltr securitization.pdf

Case Number PUR-2023-00112

First Name

Kathy

Last Name

Byron

Organization

Address Line 1 PO Box 900

Address Line 2

City

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Zip Code

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Phone Number 4342583939

Email Address delkbyron@house.virginia.gov

Comments

letter of support for securitization



KATHY J. BYRON POST OFFICE BOX 900 FOREST, VIRGINIA 2455 I

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES RICHMOND

August 28, 2023

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
COMMERCE AND ENERGY (CHAIR)
FINANCE
COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION
RILES

Mr. Bernard Logan, Clerk Virginia State Corporation Commission 1300 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Case No. PUR-2023-00112

Dear Mr. Logan:

As the Commission weighs options for addressing the deferred fuel costs Dominion Energy Virginia accrued during a period of elevated commodity prices, I would encourage a thorough consideration of the approach that promises to minimize near-term rate impacts to electric customers.

Rate relief was a major driver behind the regulatory reform law that passed through the House Committee on Commerce and Energy, which I chair, during this year's General Assembly session. Adding statutory language to enable a securitization option for fuel costs was among the more significant amendments to that legislation as it moved through the legislative process. Compared to the typical approach, securitization is admittedly complex, but it is a powerful tool for lessening the immediate rate impact of fuel cost recovery.

Relatively few of my constituents are served by Dominion Energy Virginia. I am, however, mindful that inflation extends across jurisdictional boundaries. Household finances in the commonwealth have been strained by the rising cost of essential goods and services. With this in mind, I am keenly interested in an outcome that promotes rate stability for electric customers, wherever they reside. Judicious use of a securitization option, as observed in other states, would support that objective.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy J. Byron

Chairman

House Committee on Commerce and Energy